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TO:

United States Civil Service Commission

Attention: Mr. Joseph G. Campbell

PROM:

Deputy Director for Plans

SUBJECT: KANTOR, Marvin

1. Reference is made to the request dated 7 April 1964 concerning Subject. The files contain the following information.

According to a report dated 21 April 1961 from a reliable source, reflecting Subject's own statements, Marvin KANTOR, born 9 May 1934 in New York City, was a student of Russian and Russian literature at the University of Copenhagen from 1967 to 1961. During this period, Subject travoled from Denmark to the USSR twice on a visitor's visa issued to him to visit his uncle in Minsk. The first trip covered the period 31 May - 9 July 1958; the second, 2 June - 8 September 1959. As a result of the processing of Subject's application for a visa to the USSR in 1958, he became friendly with a Soviet Intelligence (State Security) officer at the Soviet Embassy /Identified in our files as belonging to the Soviet Intelligence (State Security) Service in Copenhagen. Ostensibly in connection with Subject's visa application, he gave this officer a statement concerning his background and relatives in the USA and USSR. During Subject's stay in Minsk in 1958, he was visited approximately four times by an individual who stated that he was from a "ministry." This individual never attempted to recruit Subject for intelligence work; however, he did suggest that Subject co-operate in an active struggle for peace. Although Subject stated that he preferred not to see him, Subject felt that a refusal might lead to trouble for his relatives in the USSR, consequently, he passively agreed to this individual's general ideas. Upon his return to Copenhagen, however, Subject resumed his association with the officer from the Soviet Embassy; and in February 1959 began a clandestine meeting system with him. At this time Subject was again requested to submit written statements concerning his friends and student ac-

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quaintances, all under the protense of gaining another visa to the USSR. In June 1959 Subject again traveled to Minsk, and, during the registration process at the Soviet OVIR (Office of Visa and Registration), he mot another individual who requested him to write yet another summary concerning his background. In addition, this individual asked him numerous questions spoke at great length about peace, and offered him money on the grounds that "he knew it was rough for a student." Subject reportedly refused the offer, and, following this encounter, was visited regularly by the official from the "ministry" (see above), who, toward the end of July, invited him to a botel where they were met by the individual Subject had met at the OVIR. During this meeting the individual from OVIR identified himself as a representative of an intelligence service, and made an obvious attempt to recruit Subject. The latter was requested to sign a loyalty pledge to the effect that he was to collaborate wittingly with Soviet Intelligence. He refused, and, although an argument ensued, no physical pressure or threats were applied. Subject did not see the intelligence man again. At the International Club, upon Subject's return to Copenhagen, he encountered another employee of the Soviet Embassy /who has also been identified as a Soviet Intelligence (State Security) Officer7 with whom he conversed usually in the presence of other students. Towards the end of November 1959, this Soviet employee effected a reunion between Subject and the officer of the Soviet Embassy whom Subject had met earlier. The latter attempted to dismiss the previously-mentioned aborted recruitment effort in Minsk as a misunderstanding. Between November 1959 and April 1960, Subject held a few street-corner meetings with the Soviet Intelligence Officer. On different occasions the latter requested him to: a. rid himself of his passport because of the many Soviet bloc visas which it contained; b. accept delivery of letters from England to be turned over unopened to someone else; and c. rent an upartment where Subject would invite his American friends to meet Soviets. Subject reportedly refused these requests. In April 1960 Subject was introduced by the officer to another Soviet who was to be Subject's now contact. Subject mot his new contact approximately four additional times, but refused requests for written statements about his student friends.

3. According to a report dated 8 May 1961 from the same reliable source, and, again reflecting Subject's statements, the officer from the Soviet Embassy in Copenhagen gave Subject a bottle of whiskey and two English

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language books to be delivered to one SHARIFF in Moscow during the course of Subject's trip to the USSR in 1958. Subject delivered the gifts as directed and was asked by SHARIFF, a member of the staff of the Moscow News, if he was interested in writing a short article for that publication concerning his impressions of Minsk. Subject agreed and wrote two handwritten pages stating that he had been favorably impressed by what appeared to be Minsk's rapid growth and reconstruction. He received 500 rubles for his efforts for which he signed a receipt. (It is not known whether the article was ever published.)

- 4. A report dated 1 September 1961 from a usually reliable source indicated that Subject had been friendly with one William STEINSHITH, an American citizen born about 1933. Living in Denmark without a residence permit, STEINSHITH had sold pro-CASTRO and anti-West articles to the local Danish press and had been in contact with the local Cuban Charge d' Affaires, Gabriel CALAFORRA Salas. The latter was known for his rabid Castroism and strong anti-American feelings.
- 5. For further information concerning Subject, you are referred to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and to the Department of State.

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